

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A multi-purpose interactive application execution system having hardware system resources and software system resources capable of supporting a variety of applications with different hardware and software resource requirements, for executing an application comprising:

a means for selecting said application;

a means for setting up said application based on said hardware and software system resources wherein said means for setting up communicates with said application and allocates said hardware and software system resources for use by said application;

a means for executing said application;

a means for verifying the state of said application;

a means for repeating said verifying step until an end state is reached in said application; and

a means for closing said application.

2. The system of claim 1 wherein said means for setting up further comprises a means for interfacing said application to a user.

3. The system of claim 1 wherein said means for setting up further comprises a means for adding at least one of 1) a new feature and 2) a new effect to said application.

4. The system of claim 1 wherein said means for setting up, said means for executing, said means for verifying, said means for repeating said verifying,

and said means for closing are included in an application execution and control unit.

5. The system of claim 1 wherein said means for setting up, said means for executing, said means for verifying, said means for repeating said verifying, and said means for closing are included in a console application unit.

6. The system of claim 1 wherein said application is a legacy application.

7. A method for executing an application including:

selecting said one application from a variety of applications having different hardware and software resource requirements;

setting up a system based on currently available hardware and software system resources and allocating currently available hardware and software system resources for use by said application;

executing said application on said system;

verifying the state of said application;
repeating said verifying step until an end state is reached in said application; and
closing said application.

8. The method of claim 7 wherein said step of setting up further comprises interfacing said application to a user.

9. The system of claim 7 wherein said step of setting up further comprises adding at least one of

1) a new feature and 2) a new effect to said application.

10. The method of claim 7 wherein said steps of selecting, setting up, executing, verifying, repeating said verification, and closing said application are characterized by being performed on a console application unit.

11. The method of claim 7 wherein said steps of selecting, setting up, executing, verifying, repeating said verification, and closing said application are characterized by being performed on an application execution and control unit.

12. The method of claim 7 wherein said application is a legacy application.

13. A multi-purpose interactive application execution system for executing an application comprising:

an application execution and control unit;

an input subsystem for receiving input from a user, and adapting said input for use by said application execution and control unit;

an output subsystem for receiving output from said application execution and control unit, and adapting said output for use by a user;

a local secondary application subsystem for use by said application execution and control unit; and

a network communications unit for communication between said application execution and control unit and (1) one of an application and file

server unit (2) at least one other multi-purpose interactive application execution system, (3) at least one multi-purpose interactive application execution server and (4) any other exterior systems.

14. The system of claim 13 wherein said application execution and control unit further comprises an application management system for coordinating between said input subsystem, said output subsystem, said local secondary application subsystem, and said network communications unit based on information found in an application configuration database.

15. The system of claim 14 wherein said application execution and control unit further comprises an interface management system which provides the ability to transfer information between said application management system and at least one of (1) said input subsystem, (2) said output subsystem, (3) said local secondary application subsystem, and (4) said network communications unit, and between said application and at least one of (1) said input subsystem, (2) said output subsystem, (3) said local secondary application subsystem, and (4) said network communications unit.

16. The system of claim 14 wherein said application configuration database further comprises:
application navigation script files for storing information concerning executing said applications,

application interface script files for storing information concerning setting up at least one user control of said application; and

application manager startup files for loading, launching, and executing said application.

17. The system of claim 13 wherein said application is a legacy application.

18. The system of claim 13 wherein said input subsystem comprises a control input unit for receiving a control input from a user control, and adapting said control input for use by said application execution and control unit.

19. The system of claim 13 wherein said input subsystem comprises a visual input unit for receiving a visual input from a user, and adapting said visual input for use by said application execution and control unit.

20. The system of claim 13 wherein said input subsystem comprises an audio input unit for receiving an audio input from a user, and adapting said audio input for use by said application execution and control unit.

21. The system of claim 13 wherein said input subsystem comprises a position input unit for receiving a position input from a user, and adapting said position input for use by said application execution and control unit.

22. The system of claim 13 wherein said output subsystem comprises a force feedback unit for receiving a force feedback output from said application execution and control unit, and adapting said force feedback output for use by a user.

23. The system of claim 13 wherein said output subsystem comprises a visual output unit for receiving a visual output from said application execution and control unit, and adapting said visual output for use by a user.

24. The system of claim 13 wherein said output subsystem comprises an audio output unit for receiving an audio output from said application execution and control unit, and adapting said audio output for use by a user.

25. The system of claim 13 wherein said output subsystem comprises a special effects unit for receiving special effects output from said application execution and control unit, and adapting said special effects output for use by a user.

26. The system of claim 13 wherein said output subsystem comprises a stereoscopic display unit for receiving stereoscopic display output from said application execution and control unit, and adapting said stereoscopic display output for use by a user.

27. The system of claim 13 wherein said output subsystem comprises an acceleration feedback unit for receiving an acceleration feedback output from said application execution and control unit, and adapting said acceleration feedback output for use by a user.

28. The system of claim 13 wherein said local secondary application subsystem comprises a video/audio playback unit.

29. The system of claim 13 wherein said local secondary application subsystem comprises a console application unit.

30. The system of claim 13 wherein said input subsystem comprises:

a control input unit for receiving a control input from a user control, and adapting said control input for use by said application execution and control unit;

a visual input unit for receiving a visual input from a user, and adapting said visual input for use by said application execution and control unit;

an audio input unit for receiving audio input from a user, and adapting said audio input for use by said application execution and control unit; and

a position input unit for receiving a position input from said user, and adapting said position input for use by said application execution and control unit,

and wherein said output subsystem comprises:

a force feedback unit for receiving a force feedback output from said application execution and control unit, and adapting said force feedback output for use by said user;

a visual output unit for receiving a visual output from said application execution and control unit, and adapting said visual output for use by said user;

an audio output unit for receiving an audio output from said application execution and

control unit, and adapting said audio output for use by said user;

a special effects unit for receiving a special effects output from said application execution and control unit, and adapting said special effects output for use by said user;

a stereoscopic display unit for receiving a stereoscopic display output from said application execution and control unit, and adapting said stereoscopic display output for use by said user; and

an acceleration feedback unit for receiving an acceleration feedback output from said application execution and control unit, and adapting said acceleration feedback output for use by said user,

and wherein said local secondary application subsystem comprises a video/audio playback unit connected to said application execution and control unit and a console application unit connected to said application and control unit.